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CITE NPIC 5362.

FOR

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REF A: DIA CABLE DIAAP-1PX8582

B: NPIC CITE 5326

A RE-EVALUATION BY NPIC OF

25X1

COVERING THE

2 SEP 25X1

KEP, NORTH VIETNAM AREA REVEALS THAT EQUIPMENT REPORTED IN REF A AS SA-2 ASSOCIATED IS NOT COMPATIBLE IN SIZE AND SHAPE TO KNOWN SA-2 EQUIPMENT BUT INSTEAD ARE UNIDENTIFIED PIECES OF EQUIPMENT PROBABLY ASSOCIATED WITH THE CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITY ALONG THE RAIL LINE. THE BASIS FOR THIS EVALUATION IS AS FOLLOWS:

1. SIZE - THE CANVAS COVERED OBJECTS ARE NOT LARGE ENOUGH TO BE SA-2 LAUNCHERS EVEN WITH THE BLAST DEFLECTORS REMOVED. ADDITIONAL MENSURATION, THIS DATE, BY NPIC ON MISSION

REVEAL THE FOLLOWING:

A. CANVAS COVERED OBJECTS - (IDENTIFIED IN REFERENCE A AS LAUNCHERS).

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6	SPAD	
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7	DD-AP	
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read by
Dir
Sgt Dir
LTC Dir
2 Sep. 1965

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GROUP 1 25X1
Excluded from automatic
downgrading and
declassification

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B. GENERATOR/COMPRESSOR (IDENTIFIED IN REF A AS PROB COMPUTER/
GENERATOR VAN)

25X1

C. LARGE TENT - 

25X1

2. SHAPE - THE CANVAS COVERED OBJECTS ARE ROUGHLY RECTANGULAR WITH A LOW ARCHED ROOF. A CANVAS COVERED LAUNCHER IN A TRAVEL POSITION HAS A DISTINCT RAISED REAR PORTION THAT IS THE BLAST DEFLECTOR AND THE TOP WOULD BE A SHARP RIDGE, CONFORMING TO THE LAUNCH RAIL. WHILE BLAST DEFLECTORS CAN BE REMOVED, ALL LAUNCHERS SEEN IN TRANSIT BY NPIC HAVE NEVER HAD THE BLAST REFLECTORS REMOVED.

3. RELATIONSHIP TO SURROUNDINGS. ADJACENT TO THE CANVAS COVERED OBJECTS IS A SHEEPS-FOOT ROLLER. IN THE NEARBY TENT AREA IS A SMALL BULLDOZER, A POSSIBLE WHEELED TRACTOR WITH TRAILER, SOME PROBABLE POL DRUMS, AND OTHER UNIDENTIFIED EQUIPMENT. NO ELECTRONIC VAN OR FUEL PROPELLENT VEHICLE COULD BE IDENTIFIED. APPROXIMATELY 0.2 NM NORTH ALONG THE RAIL LINE IS AN AREA OF EXCAVATION ACTIVITY CONTAINING 2 POWER SHOVELS ON THE IH PHOTOGRAPHY AND POWER SHOVELS, BULLDOZERS, SCAPERS. AND TRUCKS ON THE BS PHOTOGRAPHY. APPROXIMA-

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TELY 0.2 NM NE OF THE CANVAS COVERED OBJECTS IS AN OCCUPIED 6-GUN AAA SITE ON THE IH PHOTOGRAPHY.

4. LACK OF MOVEMENT OF CANVAS COVERED OBJECTS. PRE-STRIKE, STRIKE, AND POST-STRIKE PHOTOGRAPHY SHOWS NO MOVEMENT OF THE CANVAS COVERED OBJECTS. SA-2 LAUNCHERS WOULD HAVE BEEN, IN ALL PROBABILITY, MOVED OUT PRIOR TO THE STRIKE, AS EVIDENCED BY NORTH VIETNAMESE REACTIONS TO PREVIOUS SA-2 SITE OVERFLIGHTS, SPECIFICLY IN THE CASE OF SITE D 31-2. THE 6-GUN AAA SITE HAS BEEN VACATED.

5. ON 31 AUGUST A CONFERENCE WAS HELD BETWEEN REPRESENTATIVES OF NPIC AND DIAAP-1 IN AN ATTEMPT TO RESOLVE THE DIFFERENCES OF INTERPRETATION OF THE UNIDENTIFIED EQUIPMENT IN REFERENCED MESSAGE. NO COMMON AGREEMENT COULD BE REACHED, AND NPIC STILL EVALUATES THE SUBJECT EQUIPMENT TO BE UNIDENTIFIED EQUIPMENT PROBABLY ASSOCIATED WITH CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITY.

GP-1

S E C R E T

--END OF MESSAGE--

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